be no compounding of the interest outstanding on the short-term loans in such cuses, and in respect o'f current dues in default, no penal interest will be charged. Thus, in view of the alieady existing liberal facilities as per Reserve Bank of India's guidelines to banks in respect of loan cases affected by natural- calamities—the Reserve Bank of India has reported that it will riot be possible to write off the loans as such, as this would undermine the viability of the banking sin on the one hand and adversely hamper the financial discipline among the borrowers on the other.

Non- resident Indians investments in A.P

1921. SHRI TALARI Iv'ANOHAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleas-io state what is the total investment made by the non-resident Indi-in Andhra Pradesh in 1984, 1985, 1988 and in 1987 till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OPTHE MINISTRY OP PETROLEUMD NATURAL GAS AND THEISTER OF STATE IN THE MIN-ISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMrTT): Data on NRI Investments ismaintained on a State-wise basis' hence it is not possible to provide desired information.

Messengers working in regonal rural Banks for more than 240 days

19?. 2. SHRI NARAYAN KAR- Will PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a): what is the number of daily wage Messengers or Messenger -cum sweepers Sweepers working in the Regional Rural Banks for more than 240 days;

(b) the number of them whose services have been regularised so far in terms of Industrial Dispute Act;

(c) whether it is a fact that in many Regional Rural Banks like Go-rakhpur, Bhojpur, Rohtas, Koraput Panchabati, Messengers working con-tinuously for more than three years have been dismissed on different pleas;

(d) whether the Government of India is going to liberalise the policy of regularisation of such existing in cluding those retrenched Messengers; and

(e) if so what is the policy. ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (. SHRT JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) According to the information furnished by NABARD in respect of 79 reporting Regional Rural Banks there were 11, 695 messengers in these banks. Of them 638 have been regularised in terms of instructions issued by Government in October, ' 1984.

(c)i The existing data reporting system does not yield information on dismissals made by individual Regional Rural Banks.
d) and (e) It hag been decided to liberalise the policy of regularisation of daily waged messengers. In terms of the decision taken by Government, regular messengers will be appointed in all Regional Rural Bank branches having business of Rs. so lakhs and payscale applicable to. the Group D post in the concerned State Government. The daily waged messengers who do not get regularised will be made Part-time regular messengers and will be entitle/-] to draw 50 percent of the wages admissible to a regis ar messenger. 'I hey will however get an option to continue to draw wages at the existing rate.

Pay scale of area Manager of RRB

1923. SHRI NARAYAN. KAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(•\) whether it is a fact that the Ministry of Finance in an order issued in 1984 informed Regional Rural Banks that the scale of pay for Area Manager would be decided soon;

(b) if so, why the pay-scale of Area Managers of Regional Rural Banks have not been settled even after two years; and.

(c) by when the pay scales are likely to be decided?

THE MINISTER OP STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI. JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (c) The National Bank for Agriculture Rural Development (NABARD) after consultation with the Government issued instructions in December, 1984 prescribing *inter-alia* tlfe norms for the creation of posts of Area/Senior Managers in the Regional Rural Banks. These managers were allowed to draw a special pay of Rs. 75/- p. m. in addition to the grade pay of the officer concerned. It has now been decided to pay a special pay at the rate of 10 per cent of the basic pay of the incumbents *to* the post of Area Senior Managers with effect from 1st January, 1)87. •Necessary instructions have also been issued in this behalf by NABARD.

Merger of Regional Rural Banks' with * Commercial Banks

1924. SHRI NARAYAN KAR; Will PRIME MINISTER, be pleased to state whether Government' propose to merge Regional Rural Banks with Commercial Banks and if so the de-. tails thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): No, Sir. Government are of the view that Regional Rural Banks should continue to function as separate entities for catering to the credit requirements of small borrowers.

Armed Gawds to vulnerable branches of Regional Rural Banks

1925. SHRI STJKOMAL SEN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased, to state:

(a) whether Government have advised *(be* Regional Rural Banks to identify vulnerable branches anal ar-rangm-guardj at the c«wt ofSponsoring Bank; and

(b) if so, how many pockets piegi-onal Rural Banks-wise) have so far been identified and at how many po-. ckets such arm-guards have feeen placed?

THE MINISTER OP STATB IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) The Re-gional Rural Banks were advised by the Government in July, 11)85 to identify branches located in high risk and disturbance prone pockets in cwtftul-lation with concerned Sponsor Banks and request the State Governments for providing necessary security arrangements. The State Governments in their capacity of share holders in the equity of RRBs are expected to service free of cost hi - case where any State Government insists on levying of charges for services rendered, the Sponsor Banks should bear the same.

The present daiing sys-tem does not generate the information Moreover, the time and energy likely fo be spent in colksctms such information may not be commen surate with the objective to be achieved.

Special increment for not joining *strike* employees of Fatehpur Kshetriya Gramin. Bank

1926. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: Will' the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are awav that management of Fatehpur Kshet-riya Gramin Bank allowed special In crement' to those who did not join the strike at the call given by All India Rural Bank Employees Association re cently;

(b) whether there is any such pro vision in service rules; and

(c whether Government do not consider it an unfair labour "practice?